This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for packaging products [[(3)]], such as candies, in a removable enclosure, ~~wherein~~ comprising the steps of:

positioning the products [[(3)]] ~~are positioned~~ on a first sheet [[(1)]] which is continuously moved in a transport direction,

~~wherein~~ covering the products [[(3)]] ~~are covered~~ by a second sheet [[(2)]] which is continuously moved in the same transport direction and which is aligned substantially plane- parallel to the first sheet [[(1)]], and

~~wherein~~ sealing the first and second sheets [[1, 2)]] ~~are sealed~~ together near the outer edges of the individual products [[(3)]] or grouped products by a sealing device ~~(10, 22, 16)~~,

~~characterised in that~~ wherein the sealing device comprises sealing ribs[[(12)]] extending substantially transversely to the transport direction on one side of the moving sheets [[(1, 2)]],

wherein said sealing ribs [[(12)]] are being moved at the same speed as the sheets [[(1, 2)]] and the sealing ribs [[(12)]] seal the first and second sheets [[(1, 2)]] together in between the moving products [[(3)]] or grouped products.

2. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the sealing device ~~(10, 22, 16)~~ comprises

a rotating frame [[(10)]], ~~the~~ having a rotation axis ~~of said frame~~ [[(10)]] extending transversely to the transport direction,

wherein said sealing ribs [[(12)]] extend from a coaxial cylindrical surface of said frame [[(10)]].

3. (currently amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein at least one of said sheets [[(2)]] is pre-shaped to fit at least partially around the products [[(3)]] or grouped products before the sheet [[(2)]] comes into contact with the products [[(3)]] or grouped products.

4. (currently amended) A method according to claim 2, wherein said pre-shaping action is performed by a pre-shaping device ~~(10,11)~~ comprising

a first rotating shaping frame [[(10)]] on one side of the moving sheet [[(2)]] and

a second rotating shaping frame [[(11)]] on the opposite side of the moving sheet [[(2)]],

wherein the rotation axes of both frames [[(10, 11)]] extending transversely to the transport direction of the sheet [[(2)]],

wherein said frames ~~(10, 11)~~ comprise co-operating protruding shaping ribs ~~(12, 13)~~ extending substantially transversely to the transport direction,

wherein the shaping ribs ~~(12, 13)~~ of both frames ~~(10, 11)~~ move between each other, and wherein said shaping ribs ~~(12, 13)~~ are being moved at the same speed as the pre-shaped sheet [[(2)]].

5. (currently amended) A method according to claim 3, wherein the first pre-shaping frame [[(10)]] is positioned such that it guides the pre-shaped film [[(2)]] towards the other moving sheet [[(1)]] while including the products [[(3)]].

6. (currently amended) A method according to ~~any of the preceding claims1-4~~ claim 1, wherein the products [[(3)]] have an elongated form and are positioned transversely on the first moving sheet [[(1)]].

7. (currently amended) A method according to ~~any of the preceding claims 1-5~~ claim 1, wherein the sealing ribs [[(12)]] comprise ultrasonic welding means.

8. (currently amended) A method according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein the sealed areas between the products [[(3)]] are perforated or scored, such that the packaged products [[(3)]] stay attached to each other, but can be easily separated.

9. (currently amended) A device for packaging products [[(3)]], such as candies, comprising

first transport means [[(8)]] for continuously moving a first sheet [[(1)]] in a transport direction,

positioning means ~~(4, 5, 6)~~ for positioning the products [[(3)]] on the first sheet [[(1)]],

second transport means [[(10)]] for continuously moving a second sheet [[(2)]] in the same transport direction in alignment substantially plane-parallel to the first sheet (1) while covering the products [[(3)]], and

a sealing device ~~(10, 22, 16)~~ for sealing the first and second sheets [[(1,2)]] together near the outer edges of the individual or grouped products [[(3)]],

~~characterised in that~~ wherein the sealing device ~~(10, 22, 16)~~ comprises

protruding sealing ribs [[(12)]] extending substantially transversely to the transport direction, and ~~said sealing device (10, 22, 16) further comprises~~

synchronizing means for moving said sealing ribs[[(12)]] at the same speed as the sheets [[(1, 2)]] while sealing the first and second sheets [[(1, 2)]] together in between the moving products [[(3)]].

10. (currently amended) A method for packaging products [[(3)]], such as candies, comprising the steps of:

~~wherein~~ positioning the products [[(3)]] ~~are positioned~~ on a first sheet [[(1)]] which is continuously moved in a transport direction,

~~wherein~~ covering the products [[(3)]] ~~are covered~~ by a second sheet [[(2)]] which is continuously moved in the same transport direction and which is aligned substantially plane-parallel to the first sheet [[(1)]], and

~~wherein~~ sealing the first and second sheets [[(1, 2)]] ~~are sealed~~ together near the outer edges of the individual grouped products [[(3)]] by a sealing device ~~(10, 22, 16)~~,

wherein at least one of said sheets [[(2)]] is pre-shaped by a pre-shaping device ~~(10, 11)~~ to fit at least partially around the products [[(30)]] before the sheet [[(2)]] comes into contact with the products [[(3)]],

~~characterised in that~~ wherein said pre-shaping device ~~(10, 11)~~ comprises

a first rotating shaping frame [[(10)]] on one side of the moving sheet [[(2)]] and

a second rotating shaping frame [[(11)]] on the opposite side of the moving sheet [[(2)]],

wherein the rotation axes of both frames extending transversely to the transport direction of the sheet [[(2)]],

wherein said frames comprise co-operating protruding shaping ribs ~~(12, 13)~~ extending substantially transversely to the transport direction,

wherein the shaping ribs ~~(12, 13)~~ of both frames ~~(10, 11)~~ move between each other, and wherein said shaping ribs ~~(12, 13)~~ are being moved at the same speed as the pre-shaped sheet [[(2)]].

11. (currently amended) A device for packaging products [[(3)]], such as candies, comprising

first transport means [[(8)]] for continuously moving a first sheet [[(1)]] in a transport direction, positioning means ~~(4, 5, 6)~~ for positioning the products [[(3)]] on the first sheet [[(1)]],

second transport means [[(10)]] for continuously moving a second sheet [[(2)]] in the same transport direction in alignment substantially plane-parallel to the first sheet [[(1)]] while covering the products [[(3)]],

a sealing device ~~(10, 22, 16)~~ for sealing the first and second sheets [[(1, 2)]] together near the outer edges of the individual or grouped products [[(3)]], and

a pre-shaping device ~~(10, 11)~~ for pre-shaping at least one of said sheets [[(2)]] to fit at least partially around the products [[(3)]] before the sheet comes into contact with the products [[(3)]],

~~characterised in that~~ wherein said pre- shaping device ~~(10, 11)~~ comprises

a first rotating shaping frame [[(10)]] on one side of the moving sheet [[(2)]], ~~and~~

a second rotating shaping frame [[(11)]] on the opposite side of the moving sheet [[(2)]], and

synchronizing means for moving said shaping ribs at the same speed as the pre-shaped sheet,

wherein the rotation axes of both frames ~~(10, 11)~~ extending transversely to the transport direction of the sheet [[(2)]],

wherein said frames ~~(10, 11)~~ comprise co-operating protruding shaping ribs ~~(12, 13)~~ extending substantially transversely to the transport direction, wherein the shaping ribs ~~(12, 13)~~ of both frames are movable between each other, ~~and wherein said pre-shaping device (10, 11) further comprises synchronizing means for moving said shaping ribs (12,13) at the same speed as the pre-shaped sheet (2)~~.

12. (currently amended) An array [[(19)]] of packaged products [[(3)]], such as candies, comprising

two sheets [[(1, 2)]] which are sealed together and enclose said products [[(3)]] or groups of products,

wherein the sealed areas between the products [[(3)]] are weakened, such that the packaged products [[(3)]] can be easily separated, and

~~characterised in that~~ wherein one of said sheets [[(1)]] is a substantially flat relatively rigid board or film and the other sheet [[(2)]] is a relatively flexible foil shaped to fit at least partially around the products [[(3)]].

13. (currently amended) An array [[(19)]] of products [[(3)]] according to claim 11 or 12, wherein the products [[(3)]] have an elongated form and are positioned transversely with respect to the sheets [[(1, 2)]].

14. (currently amended) An array [[(19)]] of products according to claim 13, wherein the sides of the sealed sheets [[(1, 2)]] extending from the outer ends of the products [[(3)]] are bend in order to give the array [[(19)]] rigidity in its longitudinal direction.

15. (new) A bandolier of packaged candy bars, comprising:

an array of candy bars, each candy bar having a longitudinal axis that is parallel to and spaced apart from the longitudinal axes of other candy bars in the array; and

a wrap forming plural air-tight units, each of the wrap units containing at least one of the candy bars, the wrap unit including:

a substantially flat lower sheet extending beneath the array;

an upper sheet including a central top portion, a pair of opposing side portions extending generally downwardly from the top portion, and a pair of opposing end portions extending transversely from the top portion;

end seals formed between the upper sheet end portions and the lower sheet; and

transverse seals formed between the upper sheet side portions and the lower sheet, the transverse seals being perforated or scored to enable disconnecting one wrap unit from another while maintaining an air-tight seal of each wrap unit.

16. (new) The bandolier of claim 15 wherein the upper sheet end portions and portions of the lower sheet forming the end seals are folded upwardly, whereby rigidity of the package is enhanced.

17. (new) The bandolier of claim 15 wherein each one of the wrap units is non-symmetrical about a horizontal plane.

18. (new) The bandolier of claim 15 wherein the upper sheet of each one of the wrap units has an inverted U-shape.

19. (new) The bandolier of claim 15 wherein an underside of the lower sheet consists of a substantially flat surface.

20. (new) The bandolier of claim 15 wherein the distance between each candy bar in the array is less than the height of each candy bar.

21. (new) The bandolier of claim 15 wherein the transverse seals are parallel to the longitudinal axes of the candy bars.

22. (new) The bandolier of claim 15 wherein the lower sheet is parallel to a plane defined by the longitudinal axes of the candy bars.

23. (new) The bandolier of claim 15 wherein the lower sheet is relatively rigid.

24. (new) The bandolier of claim 23 wherein the lower sheet is a plastic-coated cardboard.

25. (new) The bandolier of claim 15 wherein the wrap unit is a tube.

26. (new) A bandolier of packaged candy bars comprising:
a substantially flat lower film;
an array of elongate candy bars spaced apart in a side-to-side relationship;
an upper film sealed to the lower film between at least some of the candy bars in the array to form transverse seals that are parallel to a longitudinal axis of the candy bars;
the upper film sealed to the lower film at the ends of the candy bars of the array to form end seals, the transverse seals and end seals forming airtight wrap units, each wrap unit containing at least one candy bar; and
the transverse seals located between adjacent wrap units including a score or perforation enabling a unit to be disconnected from an adjacent wrap unit while each wrap unit remains airtight.

27. (new) The bandolier of claim 26 wherein the upper film extends from a first one of the transverse seals over at least one of the candy bars to a second one of the transverse seals.

28. (new) The bandolier of claim 26 wherein the upper sheet end portions and portions of the lower sheet forming the end seals are folded upwardly, whereby rigidity of the package is enhanced.

29. (new) The bandolier of claim 26 wherein each one of the wrap units is non-symmetrical about a horizontal plane.

30. (new) The bandolier of claim 26 wherein the upper film of each one of the wrap units has an inverted U-shape.

31. (new) The bandolier of claim 26 wherein an underside of the lower film consists of a substantially flat surface.

32. (new) The bandolier of claim 26 wherein the distance between each candy bar in the array is less than the height of each candy bar.